

Attorney's Docket No. 035576/201983

PATENT

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 - EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1742****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re: Maeda, et al.
Appl. No.: 09/631,491
Filed: August 3, 2000
For: HYDROGEN ABSORBING ALLOY AND NICKEL-METAL
HYDRIDE RECHARGEABLE BATTERY

Confirmation No.: 9818
Group Art Unit: 1742
Examiner: Wilkins III, Harry D.

September 30, 2002

BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action of April 1, 2002. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 6, 16, and 17 as follows:

1. (Three Times Amended) A hydrogen absorbing alloy having a CaCu_5 crystal structure in its principal phase, comprising La in an amount of 24 to 33% by weight in the alloy, Mg in an amount of 0.1 to 1.0% by weight in the alloy, and greater than 0% and less than or equal to 6% by weight of Co in the alloy.